

This course overview provides a summary of the programmes offered from September 2019. Please note this may be subject to amendment and change in future years. Students are always consulted on such change and details are made available to applicants holding offers. In order to progress through the course students normally have to pass all modules and achieve 140 credits.

Part 1	Part 2
The Opera Professional 1 20 credits	Repetiteur Skills 2 20 credits
Repetiteur Skills 1 20 credits	Professional Placement (Repetiteur) 20 credits
Opera Performance (Repetiteur) 1 40 credits	The Opera Professional 2 20 credits

The Opera Professional 1

Credits: 20

Assessment: Portfolio (50%); Performance (50%)

Through a series of seminars, this module will provide an overview of the development of opera, including social and political influences, changes in musical style, dramatic/libretto issues, developments in production style and the “fach” system. Reflective tools will be introduced to enable the students to evaluate and crystallise their learning path across the programme. Building on contextual knowledge gained from the seminar series, the practical part of the project will focus on attaining a deep understanding of the challenges of delivering recitative in opera, across a range of composers, styles and languages. This will be delivered through working sessions, coaching, staging work and a summative performance. The works selected will reflect each student’s potential and, to a lesser degree, ambitions. Works will be chosen through negotiation between student, tutor and Head of Department. Contextual knowledge and an awareness of stylistic requirements relating to the selected repertoire will be taught within individual lessons and developed through research and personal practice.

Repetiteur Skills 1

Credits: 20

Assessment: Practical Assessment (100%)

Repetiteur Skills 2

Credits: 20

Assessment: Practical Assessment (100%)

This module will provide students with an ability to develop and synthesise the technical, stylistic, artistic and intellectual skills which form the basis of working as a repetiteur at an advanced level. Principal Study tuition and associated coaching will be supported by classes in which the act of accompanying and preparing opera is practised and reflected upon. The full range of keyboard skills specific to the work of a professional repetiteur will be developed in a series of classes, and the study of Italian, German and French languages will be undertaken alongside the

singers on the MA Opera course. The development of coaching skills will be encouraged through the shadowing of coaches at the College, leading to student répétiteurs engaging independently in the coaching and musical preparation of singers. Opportunities for stage work and choral preparation will also be offered, where such activities are required within College opera productions, and skills of assistant-conducting may be developed when appropriate to the individual strengths and career interests of the students.

Opera Performance (Répétiteur) 1

Credits: 40

Assessment: Practical Assessment (60%); Continuous Assessment (40%)

Opera Performance (Répétiteur) 2

Credits: 40

Assessment: Practical Assessment (40%); Conducting Assessment (30%); Continual Assessment (30%)

This module will provide students with an ability to develop and synthesise the technical, stylistic, artistic and intellectual skills which form the basis of working as a répétiteur at an advanced level. Principal Study tuition and associated coaching will be supported by classes in which the act of accompanying and preparing opera is practised and reflected upon. The full range of keyboard skills specific to the work of a professional répétiteur will be developed in a series of classes, and the study of Italian, German and French languages will be undertaken alongside the singers on the MA Advanced Opera Performance course. The development of coaching skills will be encouraged through the shadowing of coaches at the College, leading to student répétiteurs engaging independently in the coaching and musical preparation of singers. Opportunities for stage work and choral preparation will also be offered, where such activities are required within College opera productions, and skills of assistant-conducting may be developed when appropriate to the individual strengths and career interests of the students. Throughout, students will be required to play a full role in the preparation of College opera and choral performances, as determined by the Heads of Keyboard Performance and Opera Performance.

During *Opera Performance (Répétiteur) 2* students will also receive guidance from a leading industry professional on how to prepare and present at an audition.

Professional Placement (Répétiteur)

Credits: 20

Assessment: Mentor Report (60%); Reflective Critique (40%)

Through negotiation, according to individual career plans and learning needs, the student will engage with a placement for an extended period (between 2 and 4 weeks) with a UK opera company. The student will shadow professional staff members working on an agreed opera, the score of which will have been prepared and studied fully beforehand by the student. Where appropriate, the student may be permitted to play for rehearsals or assist music staff with any aspect of opera production work.

The Opera Professional 2 (Répétiteur)

Credits 20

Assessment: Mock Audition (75%); Portfolio (25%)

Through this module, students will engage in the detailed preparation of a complete **operatic role (score for répétiteurs)** from an opera chosen through discussion with 1:1 teacher and Award Leader. Students will focus on achieving a clear, texturally accurate and well-defined stylistic interpretation of the orchestral score for their chosen repertoire. Guidance will be given in how to prepare and present at an audition or working session with a professional opera company. Career management classes will be delivered by staff and/or professional opera mentors. This will serve to support the overall process, providing guidance in the preparation of a portfolio of relevant publicity material including a website. Classes which will revisit the themes investigated in *The Collaborative Performer* will enable students to analyse and reflect on their approach to the preparation as well as substantiate their operatic/industry knowledge.